

ABSTRACT

Apparatus or method for identifying and/or validating stacked substantially flat items, comprises: stacking items having markings identifiable from an edge, viewing said stack from at least one angle selected so that edges of said items are in view, capturing an image from said at least one angle, carrying out image processing over said image to produce at least one output indicative of one of edges and edge markings in view, and using said output to obtain information of items in said stack. The items may have edge-on viewable markings that identify themselves individually or as part of a given set or both.